



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/495,393	01/31/2000	Albert Kwang-Hwa Sun	P/2167-158	4790

21967 7590 09/08/2006

HUNTON & WILLIAMS LLP
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY DEPARTMENT
1900 K STREET, N.W.
SUITE 1200
WASHINGTON, DC 20006-1109

EXAMINER

WEISBERGER, RICHARD C

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3693

DATE MAILED: 09/08/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/495,393

Applicant(s)

SUN ET AL.

Examiner

Richard C. Weisberger

Art Unit

3693

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE three MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 June 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-41 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 8-16 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7, 17, 20-31, 33, 34-38 and 40-41 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☒ Claim(s) 18, 39 and 1932 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

Art Unit: 3693

Election/Restrictions

Applicant's election without traverse of Group III in the reply filed on 06/29/2006 is acknowledged.

This application contains claims drawn to an invention nonelected with traverse in Paper of 06/29/2006. A complete reply to the final rejection must include cancellation of nonelected claims or other appropriate action (37 CFR 1.144) See MPEP § 821.01.

The examiner also acknowledges the species election in Paper 06/29/2006.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claim 1, 17 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

In claim 1, the term an "initiation document...containing requirement information" is vague and indefinite. What is the scope of the requirement information?

Claims 5 is vague and indefinite with respect to the term of "automatically generating" the Letter of Credit. Claim 1 reads on receiving information consistent with either a purchase order or a request for a letter of credit. What is the scope of "automatically" generating a "Letter of Credit"?

In claim 17, generating a "sales order" is vague and indefinite. Who are the parties to the sales order. How does the sales order differ from the purchase order of claim 2.

In claim 20, the algorithm of for comparing the sales order to the requirement information is vague and indefinite. What is being compared?

In claim 21, the scope and contents of a manufacturing specification sheet is vague and indefinite. Also the algorithm for comparing the manufacturing specification sheet to the sales order is unclear.

Art Unit: 3693

In claim 22, the “matched sales” lacks antecedent basis. Moreover, the algorithm for automatically generating shipping instruction using the matched sales order is vague and indefinite.

In claim 25, the step of generating an invoice is vague and indefinite. To what and to whom does the invoice attach?

In claim 26, the algorithm for automatically generating the invoice using the sales order is vague and indefinite.

In claim 27, the algorithm for comparing the invoice to the matched sales order is indefinite.

In claim 28, the step of comparing the shipping instructions to the matched invoice is indefinite.

In claim 29, the algorithm for automatically generating shipping instructions using the matched invoice is vague and indefinite.

In claim 31, the trade documents lack antecedent basis. Also, the step of automatically generating the trade documents using the matched invoice and matched shipping instructions is vague and indefinite.

In claims 34, the step of presenting the documents to the buyer for negotiation is vague and indefinite. What is being negotiated.

In claims 36 and 37, the reconciliation step is vague and indefinite.

In claim 41, the term in proximity is vague and indefinite

Claims 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, because the specification, while being enabling for a initiation document containing requirement information consistent with a purchase order or a Letter of Credit, does not reasonably provide enablement for requirement information not consistent with a Purchase Order or a Letter of Credit.. The specification does not enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to practice the invention commensurate in scope with these claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

Art Unit: 3693

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Green et al.

US2003/0191710.

The reference teaches the receiving step (see paragraphs [0003][0007][0009]). The reference also teaches the mapping step (see paragraphs [0003][0007][0009]. In addition the reference teaches the automatically generating the trade documents ((see paragraphs [0007][0010]).

As for claims 2, see paragraphs [0007][0009]).

As for claim 3, see paragraphs [0007].

As for claim 5-7, see paragraphs [0003][0007].

This Office action has an attached requirement for information under 37 CFR 1.105. A complete reply to this Office action must include a complete reply to the attached requirement for information. The time period for reply to the attached requirement coincides with the time period for reply to this Office action.


Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Richard C. Weisberger whose telephone number is 571 272 6753. The examiner can normally be reached during the hours of 6:30 AM to 10:30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jim Trammel can be reached on 571 272 6712. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 3693

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.


Richard C Weisberger
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3693

Art Unit: 3693

Applicant and the assignee of this application are required under 37 CFR 1.105 to provide the following information that the examiner has determined is reasonably necessary to the examination of this application.

In response to this requirement, please provide the names of any products or services that have incorporated the claimed subject matter.

This requirement is an attachment of the enclosed Office action. A complete reply to the enclosed Office action must include a complete reply to this requirement. The time period for reply to this requirement coincides with the time period for reply to the enclosed Office action.